for the occasion :

EMBARKATION OF THE PILGRIMS.

The anniversary of the Embarkation of the Paritans from Delft-Haven, Holland, was celebrated on the 1st of August, 1853, at Plymouth, Mass. Men, women, and children, participated in the festivities of the occasion. Rev. Mr-Sears furnished the following original hymn

Beneath the hallowed ground where now ye tread New England's first and holiest martyrs sleep : And ocean waves, to celebrate the dead, Lift the eternal anthems of the deep.

And here their mighty spirits linger long; They walk abroad through all the hallowed air. And where a pulse for freedom beats more strong, Know ye that Pilgrim blood is coursing there

Oh ' ye whose sacred dust on Bunker Hill Kind mother Earth in hely trust contains Above, the cause ve loved keep watching still. And roll your fire through all our languid veins

Then from New England's hills, afar and near A light shall stream in columns to the skies And like a new Aurora shall appear

Where'er a race in chains and darkness lies Hon. CHARLES SUMNER was called to respond to the toast to the Senate of the United

States. He said : Mr. President, you bid me speak for the Senate: but I cannot forget that there is another voice here, of classical eloquence, which might more fitly render this service. As one of the humblest members of that body, and as sociated with the public councils for a brief period only, I should prefer that my distin-guished colleague, whose fame is linked with a long political life, should speak for it. And there is yet another here, [Mr. Hale,] who. though not at this moment a member of the Senate, has, throughout an active and brilliant career, marked by a rare combination of ability, eloquence, and good humor, so identified himself with it in the public mind, that he might well speak for it always; and when he

neaks, all are pleased to listen. [Applause.

But, sir, you have ordered it otherwise. From the departure at Delft Haven-from the deck of the "Mayflower"-from the land ing at Plymouth Rock to the Senate of the United States, is a mighty contrast, covering whole spaces of history-hardly less than from the wolf that suckled Romulus and Remus to that Roman Senate which, on curule chairs swaved Italy and the world. From these ob scure beginnings of poverty and weakness which you now piously commemorate, and on which all our minds naturally rest to-day, you bid us leap to that marble Capitol, where thirty-one powerful States, bound in indissolu ble Union—a plural unit—are gathered together in legislative body, constituting a part of one government, which, stretching from ocean to ocean, and counting millions of people be neath its majestic rule, surpasses far, in wealth and might, any government of the Old World when the little band of Pilgrims left it, and which now promises to be a clasp between Europe and Asia, bringing the most distant places near together, so that there shall be no more Orient or Occident. It were interesting to dwell on the stages of this grand procession but it is enough, on this occasion, merely t glance at them and pass on.

Sir, it is the Pilgrims that we commemorate to day-not the Senate. For this moment, at least, let us tread under foot all pride of empire-all exultation in our manifold triumph of industry, of science, of literature-that we may reverently bow before the forefathers. The day is theirs. In the contemplation of their virtue we shall derive a lesson, which, like truth, may judge us sternly; but, if we can really follow it, like truth, it shall make u free. For myself, I accept the admonitions of the day. It may teach us all never, by word or act-although we may be few in numbers ples of duty, which, from the landing at Ply mouth Rock, have been the life of Massachi setts. Let me briefly unfold the lesson.

Few persons in history have suffered more. from contemporary misrepresentation, abuse and persecution, than the English Puritans At first a small body, they were regarded with indifference or contempt; but by degrees they grew in numbers, and drew into their company men of education, intelligence, and even of rank. Reformers in all ages have had little of blessing from the world which they sought to serve; but the Puritans were not disheartened. Still they persevered. The obnoxious laws of conformity they vowed to withstand till, in the fervid language of the time, "they be sent back to the darkness from whence they came. Through them the spirit of modern Freedom made itself potently felt, in its great warfare with Authority, in Church, in Literature, and in the State; in other words, for religious, in tellectual, and political emancipation. The Puritans primarily simed at religious freedom for this they contended in Parliament, unde Elizabeth and James; for this they suffered but so connected are all these great and glori ous interests, that the struggles for one have always helped the other. Such service did they do, that Hume, whose cold nature could not sympathize with their burning souls, is obliged to confess that to them alone "the English owe the whole freedom of their Con-

As among all reformers, so among them, there were differences of degree. Some continued within the pale of the National Church and there pressed their ineffectual attempts in behalf of the good cause. Some at lengthdriven by conscientious convictions, and unwilling to be partakers longer in its enormities, stung also by the cruel excesses of magisterial power—openly disclaimed the National Estabshment, and became a separate sect-first, under the name of Brownists, from the person who had led in this new organization, and then under the better name of Separatists. After long struggles, in Parliament and out of it, in Church and State, continued through successive reigns, the Puritans finally triumphed, and the despised sect of Separatists, swollen in numbers, and now under the denomination of INDEPENDENTS, with Oliver Cromwell as their head, and John Milton as his Secretary ruled England. Thus is prefigured the final triumph of all, however few in numbers, who sincerely devote themselves to Truth.

The Pilgrims of Plymouth were among the earliest of the Separatists. As such, they knew by bitter experience all the sharpness of persecution. Against them the men in power raged like the heathen. Against them the whole fury of the law was directed. Some were imprisoned, all were impoverished, while their name became a by word of reproach. For safety and freedom, the little band first sought shelter in Holland, where they continued in indigence and obscurity for more than ten years, when they were impelled to seek a home this unknown western world. Such, in brief, is their history. I could not say more of it, without intruding upon your time; I could not say less, without injustice to them.

Rarely have austere principles been expressed with more gentleness than from their lips. By a covenant with the Lord, they had vowed to walk in all his ways, according to their best endeavors, whatsoever it should cost them; and also to receive whatsoever truth should be made known from the written word of God. Repentance and prayers, patience and tears were their weapons. "It is not with us," said they, "as with other men, whom small things can discourage, or small discontentments cause to wish themselves at home again." And yet these men, with their sublime endurance and with their lofty faith, are among those who were sometimes called "Puritan Knaves" Knaves Puritan," and were branded by King James as the "very posts in the Church and Commonwealth." This small company of our forefathers was expressly termed the "pinched fanatics of Leyden;" and at Whitehall, in 1633, a masque—by Carew, an elegant and eareful poet of the reign of Charles I—was performed by the King and his courties where the company of the court in th formed by the King and his courtiers, wherein the whole plantation of New England was turned to royal sport. It was said to have "purged more virulent humors from the politic bodies, than guiacum and all the West Indian drugs have from the natural bodies of the kingdom." [Sensation.]

And these outcasts, despised in their own day by the proud and powerful, are the men om we have met in this goodly number to celebrate-not for any victory of war; not for any triumph of discovery, science, or learning; not for worldly success of any kind. How poor

hold fast to the Truth.
Sir, if the honors of this day are not a mock-

ery; if they do not expend themselves in mere selfish gratulation; if they are a sincere homage to the character of the Pilgrims-and cannot suppose otherwise—then is it well for us to be here. Standing on Plymouth Rock, at their great anniversary, we cannot fail to be inspired by their example. We see clearly what it has done for the world, and what it has done for their fame. No man here to day will think their self-sacrifice, their deviation from received opinions, their unquenchable thirst for liberty, an error or illusion. Conformity might, perhaps, have purchased for them a profitable peace, but not peace of mind; it might have secured place and power, but not repose; it might have opened a present shelter, but not a home in history and in men's hearts till time shall be no more. All will confees the true grandeur of their example, while, in vindication of a cherished principle, they stood alone, against the madness of men, against the law of the land, against their king. Better be the despised Pilgrim—a fugitive for Freedom—than the halting politician, forgetful of principle, "with a Senate at his heels." [En-

husiastic applause.]
Such, sir, is the voice from Plymouth Rock as it salutes my ears. Others may not hear it but to me it comes in tones which I cannot mistake. I catch its words of noble cheer: New occasions teach new duties : Time makes ancient

good uncouth; y must upward still, and onward, who would keep abreast of Truth; before us gleam her camp-fires. We ourselves must Pilgrims be; nch our Mayflower, and steer boldly through the

desperate winter sea.

The elequent gentleman's peroration was followed with the heartiest applause, long continued.

For the National Era

LINES TO C. H. C. Written on reading "Midnight in Autumn Among the Hills of Ohio."

BY KATE HARRINGTON Thou hast wakened pleasant mem'ries

That have slept within my breast, Since Ohio's hills before me Were in Autumn beauty dressed. Since I lingered long beside thee, Entranced, and wondering If the angels taught thy spirit

Twas in life's unclouded spring-time Thy warblings reached my ear Then first I learned to listen To the strains that broug the ten And oft I've stood beside thee, With my ear bent close to thine That my soul might eatch the echo Of strains almost divine

Thou didst not know the pleasure The bliss, thou couldst impart ; Nor couldst thou see the transports That leaped from my young heart Yet thou mayest still remember How I brought thee flowrets wild, And how you often called me A merry-hearted child.

Old Time has wrought his changes Since I roved through "Quiet Glen. And many are the shadows That have crossed my path since then : But when thy lays are wafted O'er seas of living green.

And brightly sparkling streamlets That proudly roll between, The Past comes up before me-I feel the tear-drops start-While Recollection's fingers Keep playing on my heart.

The same mysterious witchery My childhood loved so well Prairie Cottage, Farmington, Iowa

Wor the National Era THE SOUTHERN PLATFORM:

MANUAL OF SOUTHERN SENTIMENT ON THE SUBJECT OF SLAVERY.

eing a Compilation from the Writings of Washington, Jefferson, Madison, and others, whose names are consecrated in the affections of the Southern People—the Debates in the Federal and State Conventions which framed and ratified the Constitution of the United States—those which occurred in the first Conductors and consequences in general; its rise, progress, gresses which sat during the Administration of General Washington-and extracts from the Debate in the Virginia Legislature in 1832; with various letters, judicial decisions, &c.

BY DANIEL R. GOODLOE, OF NORTH CAROLINA. ANNALS OF CONGRESS .- Continued.

MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 1794. Quakers' Memorial.

A memorial was read, from the people called Quakers. The substance of this memorial is, to request that Congress would pass a law to prohibit the citizens of the United States from transporting slaves from the coast of Africa to the West India islands. The petition was read by the Speaker.

Mr. Giles wished that it might be referred to a select committee. Mr. Bourne wished that it should lie on the table for a day or two. He did not, by this mean to oppose the principle of the memorial but he understood that another of the same tenor was to be presented to the Senate. He therefore wished that it might be deferred, till the House could see whether the Senate should take it up. If they did not, he should then

The petition was ordered to lie on the table Page 249.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21. Ordered, That the memorial of the people called Quakers, at their yearly meeting, held in Rhode Island, in the year 1793, which lay on the table, be referred to Mr. Trumbull, Mr. Ward, Mr. Giles, Mr. Talbot, and Mr. Grove that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House .- Page 253.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28.

A memorial of the delegates from the several ocieties formed in different parts of the United States for promoting the abolition of Slavery, in convention assembled, at Philadelphia, on the 1st instant, was presented to the House and read, praying that Congress may adopt such measures as may be the most effectual and expedient for the abolition of the slave trade. Also, a memorial of the Providence Society for Abolishing the Slave Trade, to the same effect. Ordered, That the said memorials be refer-red to Mr. Trumbull, Mr. Ward, Mr. Giles, Mr. Talbot, and Mr. Grove : that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Page 349. TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11. Mr. Trumbull, from the committee to whom were referred the memorials of the people called Quakers, at their yearly meeting, in Rhode Island, in the year 1793, of the delegates from the several societies for promoting the abolition of Slavery, in convention bled, at Philadelphia, on the 1st day of January last; and of the Providence Society for Abolishing the Slave Trade, made a report which was read, and ordered to be comm to a Committee of the Whole House on Mon day next .- Page 448.

> MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17. House resolved itself into a Committee

of the Whole House, on the report of the committee to whom were referred the memorials of the people called Quakers, at their yearly meeting, held in Rhode Island, in the year 1793; of the delegates from the several societies for promoting the abolition of Slavery, in convention assembled, at Philadelphia, on the 1st day of January last; and of the Providence Society for Abolishing the Slave Trade; and, after some time spent therein, the Chairman reported that the Committee had had the said reported that the consideration, and come to a resolution thereupon; which was twice read, and agreed to by the House, as follows:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare and bring in a bill or bills to prohibit fitting out of any ship or vessel, in any port

the world, to be sold or disposed of as slaves.

Ordered, That Mr. Trumbull, Mr. Ward,
Mr. Giles, Mr. Talbot, and Mr. Grove, be a
committee pursuant to the said resolution.

Page 455. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28. Mr. Trumbull, from the committee appointed, presented a bill to prohibit the carrying on the

slave trade from the United States to any foreign place or country; which was read twice

and committed.-Page 469 MARCH 6. The House went into Committee of the Whole on the bill to prohibit the carrying on the slave trade from the ports of the United

States-Mr. Boudinot in the chair. The two first sections of the bill were agreed to, with one alteration moved by Mr. Trumbull, which was to give the District Court, as well as the Circuit Courts, cognizance of the of-The third section-which relates to the pen-

alty. &c .- it was moved should be struck out.

This motion was negatived. It was then moved to insert the word foreign before "ship or vessel;" which was agreed to. The Committee proceeded through the bill, which was reported to the House with sundry amendments. These were agreed to by the House, and the bill ordered to be engrossed for

a third reading.-Page 483. From Tucker's Blackstone. ON THE STATE OF SLAVERY IN VIRGINIA. By St George Tucker, Professor of Law in the University of William and Mary, and one of the Judges of the General Court in Virginia

NOTE H. In the preceding inquiry into the absolute rights of the citizens of United America, we must not be understood as if those rights were equally and universally the privilege of all the inhabitants of the United States, or even of all those who may challenge this land of freedom as their native country. Among the blessings which the Almighty hath showered down on these States, there is a large portion of the bit-terest draught that ever flowed from the cup of Whilst America hath been the land of promise to Europeans and their descendants, it hath been the vale of death to millions of the wretched sons of Africa. The genial light of liberty, which hath here shone with unrivalled lustre on the former, hath yielded no comfort to the latter; but to them hath proved a pillar of darkness, whilst it hath conducted the former to the most enviable state of human existence. Whilst we were offering up vows at the shrine of liberty, and sacrificing hecatombs upon her altars; whilst we swore irreconcilable hostility to her enemies, and hurled defiance in their faces; whilst we adjured the God of Hosts to witness our resolution to live free, or die, and imprecated curses on their heads who refused to unite with us in establishing the empire of freedom, we were imposing upon our fellow-men, who differ in complexion from us, a Slavery ten thousand times more cruel than the utmost extremity of those grievances and oppressions of which we comnature; such the blindness of those who pluck not the beam out of their own eyes, whilst they can espy a most in the eyes of their brother; such that partial system of morality which confines rights and injuries to particular com-plexions; such the effect of that self-love which justifies or condemns, not according to principle, but to the agent. Had we turned our eyes nwardly when we supplicated the Father of Mercies to aid the injured and oppressed; when we invoked the Author of Righteousness to attest the purity of our motives and the justice of our cause; (1) and implored the God of Battles to aid our exertions in its defence, should we not have stood more self-convicted than the contrite publican? Should we not have left our gift upon the altar, that we might first be chains and broken their fetters? Or, if the difficulties and dangers of such an experiment prohibited the attempt during the convulsions of a revolution, is it not our duty to embrace the first moment of constitutional health and vigor to effectuate so desirable an object, and to remove from us a stigma with which our enemies will never fail to upbraid us, nor our consciences to reproach us? To form a just estimate of this obligation, to demonstrate the incompatibility of a state of Slavery with the principles of our Government, and of that Revolution upon which it is founded, and to

elucidate the practicability of its total though

gradual abolition, it will be proper to consider the nature of Slavery, its properties, attendants,

and present state, not only in this Common-wealth, but in such of our sister States as have

either perfected or commenced the great work of its extirpation; with the means they have

adopted to effect it, and those which the cir-

cumstances and situation of our country may render it most expedient for us to pursue, for the attainment of the same noble and import-According to Justinian, (3) the first general division of persons, in respect to their rights, is into freemen and slaves. It is equally the glory and the happiness of that country from which the citizens of the United States derive their origin, that the traces of Slavery, such as at present exists in several of the United States, are there utterly extinguished. It is not my design to enter into a minute inquiry whether it ever had existence there, nor to compare the situation of villeins, during the existence of pure villenage, with that of modern domestic slaves. The records of those times-at least such as have reached this quarter of the globe - are too few to throw a satisfactory light on the subject. Suffice it that our ances-tors, migrating hither, brought not with them any prototype of that Slavery which hath been established among us. The first introduction of it into Virginia was by the arrival of a Dutch move that it should be referred to a select comship, from the coast of Africa, having twenty negroes on board, who were sold here in the year 1620 (4.) In the year 1638 we find them in Massachusetts, (5.) They were introduced into Connecticut soon after the settlement of that colony; that is to say, about the same period, (6.) Thus early had our forefathers sown the seeds of an evil, which, like a leprosy, hath descended upon their posterity with accumulated rancor, visiting the sins of the fathers upon succeeding generations. The climate of the Northern States, less favorable to the constitution of the natives of Africa (7) than the Southern, proved alike unfavorable to their propagation, and to the increase of their numbers by importations. As the southern colonies advanced in population, not only importa-tions increased there, but nature herself, under a climate more congenial to the African constitution, assisted in multiplying the blacks in those parts, no less than in diminishing their numbers in the more rigorous climates of the North. This influence of climate, moreover, contributed extremely to increase or diminish the value of the slave to the purchasers in the different colonies. White laborers, whose constitutions were better adapted to the severe winters of the New England colonies, were there found to be preferable to the negroes, (8) who, accustomed to the influence of an ardent sun, became almost torpid in those countries, not less adapted to give vigor to their laborious exercises, than unfavorable to the multiplicaion of their species. In those colonies where the winters were not only milder and of shorter duration, but succeeded by an intense sum-mer heat, as invigorating to the African as debilitating to the European constitution, the negroes were not barely more capable of per-forming labor than the Europeans or their de-scendants, but the multiplication of the species vere at least equal, and, where they met with numane treatment, perhaps greater than among the whites. The purchaser, therefore, calculated not upon the value of the labor of his slave only, but, if a female, he regarded her as "the fruitful mother of an hundred more;" and many of these unfortunate people have there been in this State, whose descendants, even in the compass of two or three generations, have gone near to realize the calculation. The great increase of Slavery in the Southern, in proportion to the Northern States in the Union, is therefore not attributable solely to the

Union, is therefore not attributable solely to the effect of sentiment, but to natural causes, as well as those considerations of profit which have, perhaps, an equal influence over the conduct of mankind in general, in whatever country or under whatever climate their destiny hath placed them. What else but considerations of this nature could have influenced the macchants of the free this country.

virtue which led them, amidst the reproach. the obloquy, and the hardness of the world, to hold fast to the Truth.

United States or foreigners for the purpose of the obloquy, and the hardness of the world, to hold fast to the Truth.

Sir, if the honors of this day are not a mockatrocious aggravations of cruelty, perfidy, and intrigues, the objects of which have been the perpetual fomentation of predatory and intestine wars? What, but similar considerations, could prevail on the Government of the same country, even in these days, to patronize a commerce so diametrically opposite to the generally received maxims of that Government. It is to the operation of these considerations in country, not less than to their influthe parent ence in the colonies, that the rise, increase, and continuance of Slavery in those British colonies which now constitute United America, are to be attributed, as I shall endeavor to show in the course of the present inquiry. It is now time to inquire into the nature of Slavery in general, and take a view of its consequences and attendants in this Commonwealth n particular.

(1.) The American standard, at the commencement those hostilities which terminated in the Revolu-on, had these words upon it: An Appeal to Heav-

2) The editor here takes the liberty of making s acknowledgments to the Rev. Jeremiah Belknap D., of Bosten, and to Zephaniah Swift, Esq., Rep-sentative in Congress from Connecticut, for their bliging communications; he hath occasionally made se of them in several parts of this lecture, where he may have omitted referring to them.

(3.) Lib. 1, Tit. 2.

Stith, 182. Dr. Belknap's Answers to St. George Tucker Letter from Zephania Swift to St. G. Tucker. Dr. Belknap, Zephaniah Swift. [TO BE CONTINUED.]

MASSACHUSETTS FREE DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION

SEPTEMBER, 15. Hon. FRANCIS W. BIRD, from the Committee n Resolutions, reported the following series

which were read amid hearty applause, and unanimously adopted: Resolved, That the grand object of the Free Democracy is to annihilate the influence of the dave power in the Federal Government; and

thereby prevent the extension, lessen the evils, and hasten the extinction of Slavery in Amer-Resolved, That Slavery is the creature of lo cal law, and that the United States have noth ing to do with it, except to limit, discourage, and prohibit it to the utmost extent of their con

stitutional power.

Resolved, That the slave power was never more bold than now in its attempts to prey upon the civilization of America; and that its schemes of violence and conquest abroad, and of complete dominion at home, are worthy only of barbarous ages, and are perilous to the existence of the Republic.

Resolved, That as long as she holds a race in chains, America will be shorn of her influence among the nations; and that she owes to the struggling millions of the old world to abandon the abhorrent practices which Slavery demands, and which are driving her to the side

of the allied oppressors.

Resolved, That the necessities of commerce and civilization require the speedy construction of a railroad uniting the Atlantic and Pacific oceans by the route which shall best meet the oceans by the route which shall best meet the wants of the country and the age; and we protest against the attempts of Southern politicians to engage the National Government in the construction of such a road southward of the centre of population, and of the lines of travel and emigration, mainly for the purpose of extending and perpetuating slavery.

of extending and perpetuating slavery.

Resolved, That we cannot assemble in a po litical convention, as members of a party, as citizens, or as men, without reiterating to the country and to the world our utter abhorrence of the American Fugitive Slave Bill-a bil which insults the sovereignity of the States, tramples upon the rights of the citizen, outrages every sentiment of humanity, and violates the law of God; and while it remains upon the statute book, deservedly presents our country as a by-word and reproach among the nations Resolved, That the noble act of Commander

Ingraham in protecting a Hungarian fugitive from Austrian slavery, has gloriously illustra-ted the original spirit in which the stars and stripes were consecrated to the service and defence of liberty; and we hail it as the first sign of promise, that the sympathies and influence of our Government abroad are hereafter to be manifested in favor of republicanism and not of absolutism—of the oppressed and not of the oppressor.
Resolved, That while the paramount object

of the Free Democracy is to destroy the influence of the slave power, still, not only to give efficiency to our national organization, but because we believe in State rights, and owe State duties, we recognise the importance of a well-defined platform of liberal, truly Democratic State policy. Therefore,

Resolved, That we are in favor of such a sys-

tem of State Government, and such legislation under it, as shall accomplish these, among other

patronage.
2. The election of all officers, as far as pra ticable, by the people; and the direct reponsi-bility of all public servants to the people.

3. Such legislation as shall secure the great end of Government, viz: the protection of the rights of each individual against infringement, dike, from other individuals, and from the State; and, while it preserves to capitalists rights, with the fewest possible privileges, shall guaranty to labor its rewards with the fewest possible burdens, and which, by protecting the working classes from the inordidate demands of capital, as to their hours of labor, shall secure to them enlarged means and opportun ties for intellectual, moral, and religious im

4. General laws for all, instead of special laws for the privileged few.

5. A sound and safe currency, with ample security, for the redemption of all notes

6. Limitation of the length of the ses the Legislature, and the reduction of its ex-

7. The abolition of the property qualifier tion for the offices of Governor and Lieut. Gov-

8. The guaranty of the elective franchis a right belonging to freemen, and not a privi-lege to be bought of superiors or conferred on L. F. Day, Isaac Sutherland, Jacob George, 9. The inviolable secrecy of the ballot

10. The restoration of Harvard College the purposes of its foundation. The college founded by the people of Massachusetts and sustained to a great extent by their money, should be deseted to their interests, and responsible, like the other colleges of the State, to their representations. to their representatives.

11. The enlargement of the School Fund and its preservation "inviolate; and the income thereof to be annually appropriated for the aid and improvement of the common schools of the State and for no other purpose." 12. The election of Senators in single

tricts of the people.

13. The division of large cities into repre sentative districts, thus abolishing the unjust and anti democratic general ticket system.

14. The holding of the Presidential and

State elections on the same day. 15. The right of the people to call a conven-tion for the revision of their Constitution, with-out being controlled by a factious minority accidentally in a majority in the Legislature.

16. The writ of habeas corpus as a right.

17. The restoration to juries of the right of which the courts have attempted to deprive them—the right in criminal cases to judge of the law: without which jury trial ceases to be the boasted palladium of our liberties.

18. The abolition of the imprisonment of honest debtors. honest debtors.

 The non-appropriation of public money to the support of sectarian schools. Resolved, Therefore, that we are in favor the amended Constitution, which secures so many important reforms; that we are in favor of it in parts and as a whole; and we pledge ourselves to press onward in the path of progress until these reforms shall become parts of an established institution.

an established institution.

Resolved, That the Whig party, by opposing the adoption of the amended Constitution, opposes every one of the above enumerated reforms, and aims to perpetuate all the abuses of the present system; and by stupidly resisting all progress must meet, as it deserves, an inglorious defeat.

Reserved. That in order to its experimental contents in order to its experimental contents.

Resolved, That in order to inaugurate succonstitution, and to give oflect to the reforms therein indicated, a Legie-

trieve its foriorn fortunes; and therefore, that a working majority of reform members in the next Legislature is hardly second in importance to the adoption of the Constitution itself.

Resolved, That we unanimously present to the people as our candidate for Governor, the Hon. Henry Wilson, of Natick, whose zealous love of liberty they have long known and ap preciated; whose integrity and ability they ad mire; and whose eminent public services and native sympathies with the people, entitle him to the fullest confidence and most cordial sup-

Resolved, That we unanimously present Hon Amasa Walker, of North Brookfield, as a candidate for Lieutenant Governor, and recom mend him as a long-tried and faithful friend of popular rights, who has never been found want-ing when the cause of Liberty and Humanity asked a champion.

Mr. James M. Stone, of Charlestown, from the Committee on Resolutions, next made a final report, as follows, for the committee

Resolved, By each and every member of the Convention, that we will consider ourselves as active and working members of a general ral lying committee, whose especial duty it shall be to work vigorously, from this day till the day of election, to secure the success of our cause, and to bring out the largest possible vote for our candidates for Governor and Lieuten ant Governor. Resolved, That it be earnestly recommended

to the Free Democracy of the several towns in the Commonwealth to take immediate measures to put into the hands of every voter in their respective towns, a copy of the speech of Gen. Wilson to his constituents of Natick, upon the subject of the new Constitution.

The resolves were adopted unanimously. Mr. Sumner was detained by ill health from being present at the Convention. He wrote a letter, however, stating the issues involved in the approaching election, from which we make the following extract:

"Two objects are directly presented in the coming election, and to both our organization in Massachusetts will stand pledged.

"The first is, to uphold that truly NATIONAL policy, originally declared at Buffalo, which seeks to make Freedom National and Slavery Sectional, as they were at the first organization of the Government, instead of Slavery National and Freedom Sectional, as to our shame the case now. These are words which I like to repeat, because they embody a fundamental principle-instinct at once with a wise conservatism and a wise reform-which should never pass out of mind. The establishment of thi principle—carrying with it the suppression of the unconstitutional usurpations of Slavery in National Territories, in the National District of Columbia, in the National sanction of the coastwise slave trade, and in that crowning National enormity, the Fugitive Slave Bill-will finally remove the whole subject of Slavery from the sphere of National politics; and this is the only settlement of the Slavery Ques-tion with which the North can ever rest content, as it is the only settlement which is truly in harmony with the Constitution and with the spirit of the Fathers. And to this consum-

was originally called, in part, by our votes. The amended Constitution is now on trial before the people. As a faithful, well-considered, honest work of reform, embodying many changes of unquestioned good, and providing ample means, beyond all former precedent, for securing others hereafter, it has claims on all who sincerely desire the public weal. It may but, beyond all question, it is better than the existing Constitution; and this is an all-suffi cient recommendation. The blind or selfish partisan may oppose it; but I do not see how the thoughtful patriot can withhold from it his support. Its adoption by the people will mark an era of progress in Massachusetts. The Liberal Cause, in every form, will derive from it new power.

juncture, the Convention will nominate candidates among the well-tried men of the Free Democracy. I have confidence in their judgnent, and do not doubt that the people will powerfully second, at the polls, all their recamendations.

"Believe me, dear sir, faithfully yours. " CHARLES SUMNER. Hon. E. L. Keyes, Sec'y State Committee, or

For the National Era.

CONVENTION OF FREE DEMOCRATS In accordance with previous notice, a Con vention of Free Democrats was held in the Court-house, Washington, Pennsylvania, August 30th, 1853. The President being absent, Mr. William Caldwell was chosen Presiden pro tem., and J. W. McKeever, Secretary. On motion, Samuel McFarland, Isaac Suth

George, were appointed a committee to prepare business for the Convention. The Convention then adjourned to meet at one o'clock. Afternoon Session The President, Mr. Alexander Sweeny, being present, took the chair, when the business committee reported the following resolutions, which

erland, Thomas Miller, E. J. Agnew, and Jacob

after discussion, were adopted:

Resolved, That we renew the resolution adopted at the last meeting, "That the tenth article of the Pittsburgh Platform, in the following words, 'that no permanent settlement of the Slavery Question can be looked for, except in the practical recognition of the truth that Slavery is sectional and Freedom national, by the total separation of the General Govern ment from slavery, and the exercise of its le gitimate and constitutional influence on the side of freedom; and by leaving to the States the whole subject of slavery and the extradition of fugitives from service,' be stricker from the Platform, as not in accordance with

Samuel McFarland, and William Caldwell, having been appointed to nominate candidates for the various county offices, reported the following: Assembly.-Robert McBurney and Joseph

Commissioner .- E. J. Agnew. Treasurer.-John Barry.
Deputy Surveyor.-William P. Cherry.

Prosecuting Attorney.-Samuel McFarland Auditor.—William Barr.
On motion, Resolved, That Samuel McFarland, Samuel Patton, and J. B. Chaplin, be a central committee, whose duty it shall be to appoint sub-committees in each election district, for the purpose of forming clubs, to procure and circulate Facts for the People, to procure and circulate tickets, and to perform other duties rectaining to the cause of Free other duties pertaining to the cause of Free

Resolved. That the editors of the papers this county, the editors of the National Era and Saturday Visiter be requested to publish the proceedings of this Convention.

A. SWEENEY, President.

SAMUEL PATTON, Secretary.

Slavery" is not desirable till the institution be totally abolished. But, on the contrary, the General Government should "exercise its le-gitimate and constitutional influence" in opposition to Slavery, as well as "on the side freedom."

freedom."

We object, especially, to leaving to the States the whole subject of "Slavery and the extradition of fugitives from service." We do not, however, object to leaving to the States the extradition of fugitives from service, rightly understood to mean free persons who have escaped from the obligation of contracts. But we would as soon think of evangelizing the world to the regions of darkness, as leaving the whole subject of Slavery and the extradition of fugitives from Slavery, to slaveholding States. Indeed, we can never consent to leave the subject of Slavery to any power on earth; for the obvious reason that we are bound not

Another objection to the tenth resolution is that it recognises Slavery as an institution sus-tained by the Constitution. Whereas, we be-lieve, and the sentiment is rapidly gaining ground, that Slavery has no constitutional existence; and that the time is not far distant when we shall look back with astonishment, t think that the opinion so generally prevailed that the Constitution sustained an institution so infamous as that of Slavery, and so utterly at variance with the provisions of the Consitu-tion itself. Indeed, we are sanguine in the be-lief that the period is fast approaching when men shall be elected to office, and courts constituted, willing to declare that Slavery does not and cannot legally exist on American soil; and this foul stain shall thus be blotted from our beloved country. In order that this period so anxiously desired, may be hastened, our decshould avoid any acknowledgment that Slavery has a legal existence in our nation, or that any human enactment can create or sustain su an institution.

WEEKLY EVENING POST. PROSPECTUS.

To add to the interest and usefulness of the Even-ing Post, we have enlarged it by an addition of an equivalent to about four additional columns. The Weekly and the Semi-Weekly editions were enlarged twelve columns only about three years ago. Four columns added now increases the sleet to double of the paper on which they were originally

In announcing this enlargement, which, we may be In announcing this enlargement, which, we may be permitted to say, is one of the results of the growing confidence of the commercial and industrial interests of the country in the course of the Evening Post, it is our duty to make our especial acknowledgements to those numerous friends, poth personal and political who, through evil report and through good report, have cheered us with their generous countenance and given us annually recurring proofs of their esteem and attachment, uninfluenced by the fluctuations of party opinion or the smiles and frowns of men in powparty opinion or the smiles and frowns of men in power, which too often seduce or frighten men from the course their consciences approve—the manly assertio of truth and the steady resistance of error. We tak fresh courage from our success thus far, and from their friendly co operation, to pursevere in the path which we have deliberately chosen, and they have as delib-

erately approved.

We avail ourselves of this occasion to congratulate our readers upon the arrangement which we have been so fortunate as to make with Colonel Benton for been so fortunate as to make with Colonel Benton for the publication of a series of articles from his "Thirty Years in the United States Senate," which will be continued through the year and until the work shall be published, some time in 1854. We are also in negotiation for a series of private papers and reminiscences of another eminent demo-cratic statesman, which we hope to bring out in the

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P. S. Correspondence containing news is respectfully solicited from all quarters, and if used will be paid for. paid for.

Matter intended for the paper should be writte plainly, and only on one side of the sheet. Aug. 25

THE AMERICAN SLAVE CODE, IN THEORY AND PRACTICE.

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LUCIUS C. MATLACK, Editor and Publisher, June 23.

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